SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of First Bristol Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (521) of these admissions reside in the First Bristol Representative District. Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services. In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the First Bristol Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 81% were male and 19% were female.
- 58% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 86% were white non-Latino, 7% were black non-Latino, 2% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 62% were never married, 14% were married, and 24% reported not to be married now.
- 21% had less than high school education, 52% completed high school, and 26% had more than high school education.
- 27% were employed.
- 32% were homeless.
- 35% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a "primary drug" of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Bristol Representative District.

Table 1									
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003									
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack				
District	60 %	22%	4%	4%	3%				
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%				

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2003											
First Bristol Representative District											
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU				
FY '95	447	410	119	129	66	79	59				
FY '96	431	382	143	131	56	82	46				
FY '97	607	544	216	172	131	94	82				
FY '98	701	629	286	215	171	163	120				
FY '99	572	519	225	179	125	131	104				
FY '00	473	397	156	126	85	147	126				
FY '01	522	462	184	135	92	147	101				
FY '02	487	410	146	126	82	146	96				
FY '03	521	423	160	147	86	152	109				